

We have lately heard that Miss Howard—that is, Mrs. Goring—is living in a small seaport town in Devonshire. But whether she exports her talents for a livelihood, or how she gains one, I do not know. I once wished that she, and all such like her, might do penance in a white sheet; but she probably carries with her a different penance—her coarseness. If so, it is worse than a sheet for it is a penance that cannot leave her by day or night.

I weary myself with wondering what could have wrought that mysterious change in Dr. Goring, after his second marriage, turning him against his recent chosen wife—chosen in such persistent obstinacy—and leading him to the grave. And his extraordinary will, so full of marked slight towards her, what caused that? An idea intrudes sometimes: Was it that by a chance word, on her part, he learnt that she was indeed the wife of the instrument of Mary's death, and that remorse for his own blind willfulness in taking her to his heart was preying upon him?

AN EXCITING AFFAIR IN BOSTON.

The people of the "modern Athens" have been in a state of intense excitement for some time past, on account of an episode in life's drama. About the middle of November last, two married sisters, daughters of John Gove, a wealthy merchant, made the acquaintance, in a confectionary saloon, of two young unmarried men, named Joseph Porter and William Sumner, and the parties indulged in a little flirtation, such as walking in the streets, meeting at eating saloons, and places of public amusement. Some letters passed between them, but the young men had never visited the houses of the married sisters, and the acquaintance had not been carried to any dangerous extent. By the means of a note, which accidentally fell into the hands of the husbands (named Edward O. Coburn and Frank Dalton), the affair became known to them, and they immediately plotted revenge.

One of the wives was persuaded to write a note to her gallant (Porter) inviting him to her house. He went, and found lying in wait for him the two enraged husbands, who gave him a severe flogging. Porter, however, escaped from his chastisers before they succeeded in dangerously hurting him. Sumner (a cousin of Senator Sumner) was enticed into the same house by the personal entreaties of the two husbands, whom he did not know, and was almost forced there in a carriage, under the pretext that his lady-love was extremely urgent to see him. On arriving at the house, they dragged him into a cool cellar and beat him unmercifully, in spite of the entreaties of the two wives who were present. Sumner died from this infliction, at his father's residence, in Milton, last Tuesday morning. Both Coburn and Dalton have been arrested, and put into the Suffolk County jail to await their trial on murder.

It would seem, from the fuller accounts given, that the "merry wives" made all the advances, did most of the love-letter writing, appointed the meetings, &c. So far as we can judge here at this distance from the scene, the blame falls mainly upon the softer sex, and the public sympathy is principally against them. Sumner was very young, hardly out of his teens, and was about to enter the practice of the law. Porter graduated at the University at Cambridge, and is respectfully connected. Both Coburn and Dalton are clerks—the former in the store of his father-in-law. Coburn has been arraigned on a charge of having stolen \$1700 from Mr. Gove's safe, where he was clerk.

A WITTY METHOD OF MAKING A SPEAKER.

Is my letter too long for a good joke or too? If not, here goes. Hon. Geo. S. HORTON, of Alabama, is a jolly wag, as good natured as he is honest and sensible. The other day, after several votes for Speaker had been taken, without effect, HORTON crossed the Representative Hall to the seat of the member from the Union district, when the following dialogue ensued:

MR. HORTON.—MATTISON, don't you know how to make a Speaker?

MR. MATTISON.—No; do you?

MR. HORTON.—Well, I can tell you.

MR. MATTISON.—For Heaven's sake do, then, HORTON.

MR. HORTON.—Why, let the Banks suspend!

[An exclamation occurred just here.]

TWO BROTHERS—A BIRD JOKE.

When your laugh is over that specimen of pure wit, here's another "good one." Our host of Guy's National Hotel is thought by some to bear a striking personal resemblance to Gen. Cass—how striking you may judge when I am done. A stranger, who supposed he knew mine host very well, put up at the National the other night. Since this House has become the crack hotel at the Capitol it is quite full all the time, and the new comer was necessarily, for the first night, sent to the upper floor to sleep. Coming down stairs in the morning, a little crowd, he met Gen. Cass (who has a fine suite of rooms here) in the hall, stepped up to him, and in language more forcible and rapid than elegant said: "Mr. Guy, I'll be—if I'll stand it! You've put me at the top of the house! I must have a room somewhere lower down."

General Cass, (interposing, and nervously)—Sir, you are mistaken in the person you address. I am General Cass, of Michigan.

STRANGER, (confusedly)—Beg your pardon, General Cass—thought it was my old friend Guy. Beg a thousand pardons, Sir. All a mistake, I assure you, Sir.

The General passed out of the building, but soon returned, and as luck would have it, the stranger met him at full face, again, but in another position. This time he was sure he had met him, for the Senator from Michigan he knew had just gone out. So the stranger stepped boldly up, slapped the General heartily and familiarly on the shoulder, exclaiming: "By heavens, Guy, I've got a rich sell to relate—I met old Cass up stairs, just now, thought it was you, and began cursing him about my room."

General Cass, (with emphasis)—Well! young man, you've met 'old Cass' again?

Stranger slapped, and hasn't been heard of since.—Washington Correspondence N. Y. Daily Times.

SHARPE'S RIFLES.

The following account of Sharpe's rifles from *The Missouri Democrat*, will be read with interest at the present moment:

"This recently-invented weapon, if it possesses one-half of the power and capacity claimed for it by its proprietor, is destined soon to supersede every other weapon for warlike purposes now in existence. It is the most efficacious and terrible firearm in existence. The small calibre now used by the United States mounted men throws a ball with deadly accuracy one-quarter of a mile, and can be fired ten times per minute. It is not complicated in structure, is easily cleaned, and suffers no injury from wet weather. Mr. Sharpe is now preparing models for four new species of his weapon, namely: A small pocket-point, calculated to throw a Minnie ball one hundred yards;

a cavalry pistol with a range of five hundred yards; a rifle suitable for footmen, with a range of one mile, and a large gun to throw a two-pound ball or a small shell one mile and a-half, or as far as a man or horse can be seen to advantage. With this latter weapon Mr. S. declares he can set on fire a house or a ship at the distance of nearly two miles, and prevent the use of field artillery, by killing the horses before the guns are brought within good range.

This rifle in the hands of a good marksman, is equal to ten muskets, bayonets and all, for place a man six rods distant with a musket and bayonet, and before he can bring the bayonet into use, the rifle can be loaded and discharged ten times. They carry balls with great precision and force. Mr. Sharpe intends these rifles to become a national weapon, and should Congress, by using a little liberality purchase the patent, the country would be possessed of a means of warfare unequalled in the world."

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the United States Agricultural Society will be held at Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, January 9, 1856.

Business of importance will come before the meeting. Reports from its officers will be submitted, and a new election be made, in which it is desirable that every State and Territory should be represented.

Lectures and interesting Discussions are expected on subjects pertaining to the objects of the Association, by distinguished scientific and practical Agriculturists. The Transactions of 1855, containing a full account of the late exhibition at Boston, will be distributed to such members as are present.

The various Agricultural Societies of the country are respectfully requested to send delegates to this meeting; and all gentlemen who are interested in the welfare of American Agriculture, who would promote a more cordial spirit of intercourse between the different sections of our land, and who would elevate this most important pursuit to a position of greater usefulness and honor, are also invited to be present on this occasion.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.
W. S. KING, Secretary.
December, 1855.

CONGRESSIONAL.

No speaker has been elected and no alteration in the balloting as given last week, is perceptible. The city papers are filled to repletion every day with telegraphic dispatches and rumors, and special correspondence detailing both the actual proceedings of Congress, and the numerous speculations incident thereto. As we have no correspondent at Washington to furnish us with exclusive intelligence we have concluded to borrow from one of our contemporaries—"Young America"—from the first number of which we take the following.

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE SPEAKERSHIP.

By SAM HOBBS EXPRESS.
OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.
[From the Correspondent of the Associated Press.]
WASHINGTON, Dec. 4th, Midnight.

Two members of Congress have arrived.—They don't know who they'll vote for. One is from Pike county, Missouri, and drinks Bourbon whiskey. Everything is in confusion as regards the organization of the House.

The President will send a message to Congress this year.

LATER. 1 o'clock, A. M.

The President has sent for a file of Marries to protect the Message from the printers. I am informed on the best authority, that the Message will contain some reference to our foreign relations.

There is no truth in the rumor that Smith has been appointed Consul to Libanus.—Smith is an able man, but he is mixed up too much with Brown of Arkansas, who plays poker when he ought to be stamping his district.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]
(Shown not to write for any other Paper.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.

Things look now as if Jenkins of Florida would be chosen Speaker, Jenkins is a National Know Nothing, Abolition, Southern Rights, Democratic, Hays Shell, Twelfth Election Whig. It is supposed that he can control the votes of all the parties. He is all right on the pose question.

The commissioners for running the boundary line between Hoboken and Bergen arrived in town to-day, and had an interview with the Attorney-General. It is supposed the boundary line will be run into the ground.

Jenkins' chances are looking up. On the last ballot he only wanted one hundred and thirteen votes of an election.

VENTAS.

[From another Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—3 A. M.
The Governor of Coney Island has sent for aid to quell the clam rebellion. The President feeling that it was a very delicate question, has sent word to him to take all precautionary measures to put down the clam in soup or fritters; but if that fails, he will send orders for a shower.

The President and Mrs. Pierce went to see the Negro Minstrels to-night. The Southern party in the House are indignant, and said thereafter they would not dine with Mr. Pierce or borrow money of him.

Mr. John Quincy Adams Lafayette Brown gave her first soirée dance last night, at her residence on Kansas Avenue. Brown was not about, as he was detained at bluff with the Ambassador from the Vale of Cashmere. The party was brilliant, and many members were present. Mrs. B. is first cousin of Mr. J. Smith, who has applied to Congress for a patent of the double rotary ball action side wheel high pressure machine for cutting out, sewing, washing, and stiffening shirt collars at four cents a piece. I had a conversation with the President about the Message, and he says he intends to give England some good advice.

[From our Secret Correspondent.]

In the confidence of the cabinet.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—4 A. M.

I learn there will be nothing in the Message about our relations with the English government.

I have exclusive information that the President has refused copies of the Message to any one. Pilwalkin, the editor of the Koss Co. paper, a great friend of the President, could not get one, and he threatens to come out for John Buchanan.

Pierce says he won't give in. He is iron.

[Still later, and important.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—6 A. M.

The impression here now is, that the Message will be warlike towards England. Mr. Clampton will, he may back, or else he will remain here, or he may resign. Ostrander.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Baltic arrived at New York Thursday night of last week, with Liverpool dates to the 1st. The only important news of the week relates to the prospect for new negotiations for peace. The rumors are possibly premature, but strong hopes are entertained that it is stated that Russia has directly requested Prussia to make conciliatory offers to the Western Powers. Prussia is said to have accepted this mission and Austria also assents.—But the most definite form of rumor, is, that propositions had been submitted to Louis Napoleon in behalf of Russia which can be honorably accepted; namely: That Russia will conclude peace with the Western powers without the intervention of either Austria or Prussia; Russia according to the guaranteed independence of the Danubian principalities, and the freedom of the Black Sea; both parties to continue preparations for war, but to active hostilities to be entered upon in an agreed date. The London Morning Advertiser says of the Russian propositions that they are dishonorable, delusive and unsafe; they fall short of what the western powers have a right demand and of what will satisfy the expectations of the country.—Dispatches are published from Vienna, confirmed by positive statements of the Paris correspondents of the London Times, to the effect that under the lead of Austria, the German powers are about to address the allies with a view of bringing about a peace, and that the German dispatches had more hope of influencing France than England. It is believed that Russia is unable to hold out much longer in the Crimea, and the Czar, satisfied that some sacrifices must be made has employed Austria to sound France and England. On the other hand, the Russian government is engaged in the construction of railways and steamers, the manufacture of Minie rifles, the re-organization of the fleet, and the rapid completion of enormous military levies, all indicating preparations for a long and obstinate contest.

In Asia Omer Pasha had entered Kutars and recommenced offensive operations. The force of the allies at Kertel and Yenikale had been augmented to 45,000. Details of the battle of Igaur do not differ materially from the telegraphic reports. The blockade of the White sea was raised October 1st. Admiral Brant, commander of the French fleet in the Black sea, has died of cholera; Count Mole was also dead.—Nothing has occurred at Sebastopol of consequence. On the 15th ult. the Russian batteries on the north side commenced firing hot shot, which the allies returned in kind.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Times gives the following as the programme of next year's operations:

"You will not have failed to observe the remarkable results obtained by the new gun-boats which were tried for the first time, and only as an experiment, at the taking of Kiburn.—These boats were built after plans and suggestions made by the Emperor, and the first constructions, necessarily imperfect, are said to be susceptible of important and valuable modifications. Yet they fulfilled exactly the want which had been felt from the commencement of the war; a boat which could approach armed fortifications without great danger of being destroyed. The English declare the invention just the thing required, and at this moment English ship-builders are engaged in the construction of three hundred of these boats, French builders on one hundred. With these boats they intend to attack and destroy Constantinople in the Spring, and then of course, St. Petersburg. Louis Napoleon declares that with these boats Constantinople, and must be destroyed; and he feels so confident of the fact, that he is ready to head the expedition if necessary. Still he is willing, and no doubt will consent to leave the work in the hands of the English Admiralty.—The campaign will thus open by the taking of Odessa and Nicolaeff, and the attack on Constantinople will follow. The fall of Odessa and Nicolaeff will render necessary the evacuation of the Crimea by GORTCHAKOFF, if it does not occur from other causes before that time, and the Allies will then be in possession of the entire Black Sea coast.

This is the programme: what will be the results, if it succeeds? The excitement in England upon American affairs died a natural death. The Danish Sound dues conference has met but taken no action. The King of Prussia, in his speech to the Chambers, announced decidedly the continued neutrality of Prussia. The King of Sardinia is in the line in England and France; he went from France to England in the yacht of Queen Victoria.—The strike continues at Manchester with additions of several hundred new workmen; six or eight hundred walked through the streets, the man at their head carrying a banner for contributions from the people on the route, generally obtaining what they asked, but in small amounts.

Marshall PIEMBERT has recently conferred on young Lieut. JEROME NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, formerly of Baltimore, the decoration of the Legion of Honor, "for great zeal and activity in the performance of his duties during the entire campaign."

ONE WEEK LATER.

The steamship Asia, from Liverpool, the 8th arrived Halifax, Tuesday morning. There is no feature of special importance in the week's news. Peace rumors were quite abundant, but beyond the circumstantial manner in which they were related, there was nothing to show that they were founded upon fact. Upon the strength of them, however, an advance in consols had taken place.

Nothing has occurred in the Crimea lately. Very little shot is exchanged; the Russian works on the north side are attaining gigantic dimensions. The British soldiers are having horse-races and French theatre. The French have been reinforced by Gen. Chancelorff's division of 12,000. The Russians have erected batteries to prevent a landing in the rear of the forts. The allies have connected the French and English camps by a bridge of boats. Admiral Lyons continues to cruise near Kertel as the Russians threaten an attack and have fortified Arabat with 20,000 and Genikutz with 15,000 men. A French colonel and captain making a reconnaissance, were killed by Cossacks.

The timber rafts recently captured by the allies are lost, having floated away and broken up in a freshet. The Baltic fleet has started home-wards.

Fred Douglas tells the following capital anecdote about President Pierce:

"About the time Pierce was nominated, I was in New Hampshire, and, with a great portion of the American people, I felt curious to know who Franklin Pierce was. I happened to be in a bar-room, when some allusion was made to the nomination by a plain farmer, who appeared to know something about the candidate. I asked him if he could tell me who this General Pierce was. He replied: 'Oh, 'Frank Pierce—O yes, I know Frank. Why, we think he's, quite a man, up here in these parts; but there, come to spread him out all over the country, he will be awful thin.'"

The Vermont Phoenix.

BRATTLEBORO, VT.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1855.

THE VERMONT PHOENIX FOR 1856.

The Second Volume of THE VERMONT PHOENIX will commence on Saturday, January 6th, 1856. The first year of its existence does not expire until the end of next month; but we have been induced to make the above change in the commencement of the volume, both for our own convenience and that of our subscribers. All who have paid in advance will receive the paper until the time paid for expires. The accounts of others will be made up to the 1st of January.

THE PHOENIX will be maintained on the same general basis that has characterized its past existence, and which, we are happy to believe, has met with very cordial approval. It is the intention of its Editor to make it a *Real Newspaper*. In furtherance of that desire it will give early and reliable intelligence of all events and transactions of interest to its readers; subvert the necessities of the Farmer and all others engaged in industrial pursuits, by the publication of timely and valuable articles, devoted to those subjects, from the pens of the best writers in the country; promote the interests of the community by the temperate discussion of Politics, Education, Temperance, Science and Art; furnish for the convenience of both consumer and producer reliable reports of Boston Prices Current, New York and Wool Markets, Cambridge and Brighton Cattle Markets, and Brattleboro Produce Market; maintain full details of Local News, as made up from our own observation and the correspondence of friends in every section of the county and vicinity, together with a digest of foreign and Domestic Intelligence; and give a carefully selected Miscellany for the instruction and entertainment of all.

In Politics, we shall be independent to express such views as we honestly entertain, sustaining at all times, with an unflinching trust, the great principles of HUMAN FREEDOM, and opposing the action of all men and all parties who seek to curtail its extension or abridge its influence, whether they be Slaveholders or Douglasses, Romanists, Priests or Foreign Demagogues.

Soon after the 1st of January we shall complete our arrangements for printing our advertisements in a new and smaller type than that now used, which improvement will add to the beauty of the typography, and increase the already great space devoted to reading matter.

In short it is our aim and will be our constant endeavor to make THE PHOENIX the best FAMILY NEWSPAPER in the State, and we shall spare no pains to accomplish that desirable end.

To promote its circulation and extend the sphere of its influence we have consented to reduce the terms to Old Subscribers, who will receive the paper after the 1st of January, next, in clubs of ten or more, and paid for strictly in advance, for \$1.25 per year. Those who have paid for the paper until the 1st of February, can join the club in their respective towns by paying \$1.15 for the remainder of the year. No paper will be sent at that price until the money has been received. To all others, including village subscribers, the terms will be \$1.50 in advance.

IF we trust that our friends in every town will use their exertions to extend the circulation of THE PHOENIX, as it can only be afforded at the reduced Club price by a largely increased subscription list. Send in the names early.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Antislavery Hall.—The "Hydrophobia" gave their second anniversary Ball at the New Town Hall on Wednesday evening. As the facilities for convening a large assembly were greater than on any similar occasion in former years, all the arrangements were made on a corresponding scale under the immediate direction of the company; and we hazard nothing in saying that they were so complete and perfect in form and substance as the most fastidious could desire. The tables were spread in the lower hall and kept in constant readiness for the accommodation of the party throughout the entire evening. The music was furnished by the Germania Band, of Boston, and those who have ever enjoyed the pleasure of listening to their sweet harmonies will readily understand how it fully met the most sanguine expectations of all.

About one hundred and seventy-five couples were in attendance, embracing most of the Hydropaths, a good number of our citizens with a sprinkling of the members of Engine Company No. 4, and friends from the neighboring towns, Greenfield, Springfield, Pittsburg, Boston and New York. Among those who appeared in Military uniform, were Capt. Taylor of the "Green Mountain Guards," Bellows Falls; Capt. Proctor of the "Washington Guards," Pittsburg; Col. S. A. Coley of Hartford, Conn., and others, whose soldierly bearing added much to the interest of the occasion.

The appearance of the ladies, who were out en masse, was more beautiful than we remember to have seen on any former occasion, and was above all praise. For wealth of personal charms, grace of manner and the exquisite taste displayed in their toilet, they might have safely challenged a comparison with those of any town or city in New England or elsewhere. Their modesty being in perfect keeping with their beauty we shall avoid giving offence by refraining to particularize where all was worthy of the highest praise.

In all that goes to give character, comfort, and happiness to such an assembly, we think this second anniversary Ball of the Hydropaths cannot be readily excelled. It received the voluntary and unqualified praise of all participants; while the serene and quiet condition of the gallery evinced the gratification of the spectators.

To the Boys who Coast in the Streets.—The attention of the boys in this village, as well as that of their parents, is called to the 15th article of the By-Laws of the Village of Brattleboro, which is as follows, to wit:—

Art. 15th. No person shall, at any time, slide on sleds, or any other thing, in sport, down any of the hills, in the streets, or across any of the roads or highways; neither shall he play ball or any other game or sport to incite or annoy a Village, on pain of forfeiting thereof, to said Village, a sum not exceeding two dollars and cents, for each offence; and, if under age, the same to be recovered of the parent or guardian of the person so offending.

We learn that the Police have orders from the Halliffs to put the above by-law in force, and that they will duly perform their duty.

EP Hon. Daniel Kellogg, late of Saxton's River, has purchased the Phelps' Estate on High street, and will hereafter make this village his place of residence.

Bellows Falls Hotel.—Messrs. Holmes & Finlay have leased the Bellows Falls Hotel, until recently under the charge of Mr. W. W. Felt. The Hotel has lately been very thoroughly repaired without and within. This has long ranked as one of the best public houses in Vermont, and its new proprietors bid fair to maintain the reputation which it has acquired under the management of Mr. Felt. Nothing further is necessary to secure the good will of the travelling community.

but two wished inserted the clause of recommendation to marry.

VETERANS OF THE GRANITE STATE.—The Annual Meeting of the Vermont Veterans Association, a corps of about one hundred and fifty men, most of whom have seen a half century of years, and are of stalwart proportions, have gone on a nine days trip to Washington. They are dressed in the continental style of uniform,—cocked hats, coats of a cross between a frock and dress, long vests, short nether garments, with a superabundance of fancy boot legs, and a good display of yellow trimming and brass buttons. Col. C. E. Potter is their commander. At Worcester they were welcomed in a neat speech by ex-Gov. Lincoln; while at New York, Philadelphia and Washington they were treated with the greatest courtesy. On Tuesday they paid their respects to the President, most of them being his personal acquaintances and friends. Wednesday, they visited the grave of the illustrious Commander-in-Chief at Mt. Vernon, and on Thursday started for home.

THE GOOD TIME COMING.—For some weeks a new story by T. S. Arthur has been advertised as forthcoming, and it has now made its appearance. It is another of those excellent books from the pen of one of the most popular authors of the day. Perhaps the author may not be called a brilliant writer. "Brilliant" in works of fiction too often involves sentiments of doubtful propriety, to say the least, and such sentiments can never be laid to his charge. His stories are domestic ones, and invariably are underlain by sound morality. He may have been a little visionary in his hopes of the "good time coming"—not of the book which bears that title—but, of the thing itself. But he is a true man, and is making a good mark upon the minds of the young.

This story teaches lessons for which there is need in these fast days—lessons alike for old and young—and trust it will be extensively read. For sale at the Bookstore.

"COOL REPUBLICANS."—Wonders have not ceased. D. A. Rowe, Esq., late of the Brattleboro Inquirer, has started an anti-administration paper with the above title in Cool. Light is beginning to break in upon that politically benighted country. The time has been when the New Hampshire Patriot was the Bible and Psalm-book of its inhabitants, and we have heard it said that Justice of the Peace frequently administered oaths to witnesses upon its political axioms.

PROCLAMATIONS.—The President of the United States has issued a proclamation warning all citizens of this country against enlisting or retaining others to participate in military operations within the State of New Jersey; also a proclamation, announcing the compliance of Newfoundland with the Reciprocity Treaty, and that in consequence certain enumerated articles, the productions of that country, shall be admitted from that Province into this country free of duty.

Hon. D. P. Thompson has retired from the management of the "Green Mountain Freeman" over which he has exercised a constant supervision, both business and editorial, for seven or eight years. He is succeeded by Mr. S. B. Boyce who will conduct the Freeman in a manner to accord with its former reputation.

ROCHESTER ACADEMY.—We have received a catalogue of the Instructors and Students of this Academy at Rochester, Mass., under the charge of Mr. Chas. P. Bagg, formerly of Hinsdale, N. H., and Miss Emily O. Richardson late of the Brattleboro Academy. The school appears to be in a flourishing condition.

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Railroad Accident.—On Friday last, there was a collision at Grant's Corners, in Montague. By the carelessness of the switchman the Greenfield train was turned upon the Brattleboro route. Being backed off to gain its true place, the rear car was run into by an engine sent from Athol to take up the Brattleboro train. The rear car was ruined, but the passengers in it received very little injury. Messrs. John L. Tucker, W. T. Davis, Joel Lyons, and D. N. Carpenter, of Greenfield and Col. B. H. Leavitt of Charlestown, were on board. Mr. Tucker was the only one of them injured, and he but slightly. The collision seems to have been the result of negligence in the switchman. In the first place, and of the engineer of the second engine, in the next place, in running too near the train, so that he could not stop his engine in case of accident, before reaching the train.—Greenfield Republic.

Shillbourn Falls Academy.—We have received the annual Catalogue of this flourishing school, from which we learn that the average attendance through the year has been 101 scholars per term. It is under the charge of H. A. Pratt, an experienced teacher.

Honorable.—The Conn. River Railroad company has presented the Fire Department of Greenfield with fifty dollars, for their efficient service in saving the railroad bridge at Deerfield, from fire at the time of the late accident there.

VERMONT CENTRAL R. R. CO. The adjourned meeting of stockholders, for the election of Directors, was held at Northfield on Wednesday last. A resolution was adopted in favor of consolidating the interests of stock and bondholders and creditors, by cancelling the whole and forming one new Corporation in connection with the Vermont and Canada road; and Messrs H. W. Pickering and Henry Homer of Boston and J. W. Lawrence of Hartford, Vt., were appointed a committee to consider a plan of union and consult the different interests. It will be recalled that a bill to authorize consolidation was passed by the House unanimously, at the recent session, but failed in the Senate for want of time to act. No difficulty is apprehended in securing its passage at the next session.

On the election of Directors, a contest arose as to the right to vote. Some 60,000 shares (or nine-tenths of the stock) had been sold on executions issued against the Company, and the purchasers of this stock claimed the right to vote to the exclusion of the original owners. The latter also claimed the right. All the votes were received, counted and reported to the meeting,—being classified in the report according as they were cast, and stating the number cast by the contestants. If the title by execution gave the right to vote, Messrs J. C. Howe, C. O. Whitmore, G. M. Dexter and B. P. Cheney of Winooski, Levi Underwood of Burlington, J. G. Smith of St. Albans and E. P. Walton of Montpelier were elected. If the title by execution did not carry the right to vote, Messrs. W. R. Lee, Philo Sanford, E. B. Pratt and John S. Eldridge of Boston, E. P. Jewett of Montpelier, Calvin Ainsworth of Williamstown and L. E. Chittenden of Burlington were elected.

On this state of facts, the President declared the first named ticket to be elected; and Messrs John H. Stark and Henry Homer of Boston protested against the decision. Two gentlemen on the last named ticket (Messrs. Lee and Eldridge) declined on the spot, and we understand that Messrs. Jewett and Ainsworth also would not serve. These four who decline from a majority of that ticket.

As there is some excitement on this matter of selling stock on executions, we will state the law briefly. By a general statute of the state, enacted previous to the charter of the Vermont Central R. R. Co., and applicable to all similar corporations, it was provided that "the capital stock of any private corporation, the words 'private corporation,' as defined by statute, include railroads," whether owned by such corporation or individuals, shall be liable to and held by attachments, and may be taken and sold on executions against such corporation." And when so taken and sold in the manner specified by law, the statute declares that "the title of the stock, so sold, shall vest in the purchaser." Under this statute, and doubtless acting on advice from the legal profession, the President determined the election as before stated. The same law has been recognized in like manner at an election of Directors of the Rutland & Burlington road. So much for the law in its operation on the corporation. For the stockholders, relief was provided by statute in 1852, by which it was provided that in cases of sales of stock on executions against the corporation, the stockholders may have their remedy against the corporation in an action for damages. The law and the facts in this and similar cases will present some hard questions probably, if any body chooses to try them. The true way to avoid difficulty is for the corporations to pay their debts—if they can. With the Central, that "if" is weighty at present.—Watchman.

RAILROAD BRIDGE DOWN.—We learn that on Monday evening of last week, the down passenger train on the Rutland road, ran off the track, on account of a switch left wrong, just before reaching the bridge which crosses the Otter Creek in Whiting Vt. The locomotive struck the bridge great force, knocking down the whole structure, which must be nearly 100 feet long. The locomotive fortunately did not follow the bridge into the river, but stopped half way down the bank. The engineer and fireman went down the bank with the engine. Nobody was hurt.

FATAL ACCIDENT. Mr. DAVID BAKER ROBINSON, only son of Capt. David Robinson, of this town